

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	19 June 2002
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Whtrabt
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Computer Printout
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The computer printout entitled *Whtrabt* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The publication is a computer printout, consisting entirely of text, of an Internet Relay Chat session between two participants identifying themselves as a 59-year-old man and a 14-year-old boy. The printout was obtained from a "log" file, which records the contents of an Internet chat session, saved on the hard drive of a computer. The publication contains explicit descriptions of sex between adults and children, including sadomasochistic sexual activity, and references to sex with an animal. There are also references to illegal drug use.

The computer printout promotes and supports the exploitation of children and young persons for sexual purposes, as outlined under s3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act). It does this by presenting explicit and salacious descriptions of sexual activity between adults and boys. The two participants reinforce to each other that boys are appropriate and desirable sexual partners for adults, and thereby promote and support the exploitation of boys for sexual purposes to each other. The computer printout also tends to promote and support bestiality, as outlined under s3(2)(e) of the FVPC Act, by presenting sex with an animal as a sexually arousing scenario.

The computer printout meets criteria under s3(2)(a) and s3(2)(e) of the FVPC Act, and is therefore deemed to be objectionable. A classification of "objectionable" places a limit on the right to the freedom of expression as set out in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, in relation to this publication, the classification is considered to be a reasonable limit prescribed by law that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

OFLC Ref: 200496